

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information creating apparatus for creating information to be provided to a reproducing apparatus for reproducing data, said information creating apparatus comprising:

first acquiring means for acquiring edit point information describing an edit point set for said data; and

creating means for creating reproduction control information in accordance with said edit point information acquired by said first acquiring means, said reproduction control information resulting from an editing process based on said edit point and serving to control reproduction of said data.

2. The information creating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said reproducing apparatus further comprises:

determining means for determining whether it is possible for said reproducing apparatus to reproduce in real time said data resulting from said editing process; and

relocating means for relocating data in proximity of said edit point if said determining means determines that it is impossible for said reproducing apparatus to

reproduce in real time said data resulting from said editing process; and

wherein said creating means creates said reproduction control information including information for indicating said data relocated by said relocating means as a reproduction object.

3. The information creating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said creating means creates said reproduction control information including information for designating a decoder of said reproducing apparatus for use in reproducing said data.

4. The information creating apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising determining means for determining a location at which said reproducing apparatus starts reproducing said data;

wherein said creating means creates said reproduction control information including information for designating the starting location determined by said determining means.

5. The information creating apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said creating means creates said reproduction control information including information for designating said starting location determined by said determining means using address information processible

by said reproducing apparatus.

6. The information creating apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising second acquiring means which, if said data are constituted by pictures, then acquires picture information about said pictures;

wherein said creating means creates said reproduction control information in accordance with said picture information acquired by said second acquiring means.

7. An information creating method for creating information to be provided to a reproducing apparatus for reproducing data, said information creating method comprising the steps of:

acquiring edit point information describing an edit point set for said data; and

creating reproduction control information in accordance with said edit point information acquired in said acquiring step, said reproduction control information being resulting from an editing process based on said edit point and serving to control reproduction of said data.

8. A program for causing a computer to create information to be provided to a reproducing apparatus for reproducing data, said program comprising the steps of:

acquiring edit point information describing an edit point set for said data; and

creating reproduction control information in accordance with said edit point information acquired in said acquiring step, said reproduction control information resulting from an editing process based on said edit point and serving to control reproduction of said data.

9. A reproducing apparatus comprising:

acquiring means for acquiring reproduction control information, which is created in accordance with edit point information describing an edit point set for data and which serves to control reproduction of said data; and

reproducing means for reproducing said data in accordance with said reproduction control information acquired by said acquiring means.

10. The reproducing apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising determining means and selecting means for use when said reproduction control information includes information for indicating as a reproduction object data, which are relocated by an information creating apparatus for creating said reproduction control information and which are in proximity of said edit

point;

wherein said determining means determines a location at which to start reproducing said data in accordance with said reproduction control information;

wherein said selecting means selects a decoder for reproducing said data; and

wherein said reproducing means reproduces said data based on said reproduction control information, on the starting location determined by said determining means, and on said decoder selected by said selecting means.

11. The reproducing apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising determining means for use when said reproduction control information includes information for indicating as a reproduction object data, which are relocated by an information creating apparatus for creating said reproduction control information and which are in proximity of said edit point, and information for designating a decoder for reproducing said data;

wherein said determining means determines a location at which to start reproducing said data in accordance with said reproduction control information; and

wherein said reproducing means reproduces said data based on said reproduction control information and on the

starting location determined by said determining means.

12. The reproducing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein, if said reproduction control information includes information for indicating as a reproduction object data, which are relocated by an information creating apparatus for creating said reproduction control information and which are in proximity of said edit point, information for designating a decoder for reproducing said data, and information for designating a location at which to start reproducing said data, then said reproducing means reproduces said data solely in accordance with said reproduction control information.

13. A reproducing method comprising the steps of:  
acquiring reproduction control information, which is created in accordance with edit point information describing an edit point set for data and which serves to control reproduction of said data; and

reproducing said data in accordance with said reproduction control information acquired in said acquiring step.

14. A program, which is readable by a computer, comprises the steps of:

acquiring reproduction control information, which is created in accordance with edit point information

describing an edit point set for data and which serves to control reproduction of said data; and

reproducing said data in accordance with said reproduction control information acquired in said acquiring step.